

Chikaming Township Park Board Regular Meeting – APPROVED

February 28, 2022

Chikaming Township Large Meeting Room

The February 28, 2022 of the Park Board was called to order at 6:31PM by Chair Arthur Anderson. Also present were board members Sherri Curry, Jill Underhill and Shelly Taylor, along with members of the community both in-person and via Zoom.

**NATIONAL ANTHEM:** Led by Anderson

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:** Curry added Mparks Conference, No objections, Approved with addition

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

**ACKNOWLEDGMENTS:**

Anderson acknowledged Joe Sipek on his research on Pier St. step reconstruction. Joe said its similar to plans from last year, \$2,500 for lumber, \$,3000 for hardware & lumber, contingency of 25% recommendation, or \$1,000.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Accepted as drafted with corrections.

**TREASURER’S REPORT:** \$40,910 is current balance.

**REPORTS:** In packet

Previously approved minutes

Work Reports

Parks and Beaches – Anderson has been in contact with Alan Witte about park, discussing options and working with Abonmarche.

Manager Alex – Liz Rettig created bank account working with Paypal, Alex would like to display flyer in glass cases. Burn is ready, just waiting for window and Plantwise is ready to go. Ice rink was open 26-28 days this season so far.

**CORRESPONDENCE:** In packet, marked as read.

Underhill – Miller St. Beach – no request or application filled out yet, no formal request made.

Anderson – permission to park cars and food trucks at CTPP, ordinance says not to park overnight so will not give permission.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

Pier St. steps – Appropriate money to order materials this fiscal season, delivery of materials would be April, then begin construction first week of May. Beach is looking better.

Moved by Underhill to appropriate money for Joe Sipek in the amount of \$4,000, which includes contingency amount, to purchase materials, Supported by Anderson.

Roll Call Vote:

S. Taylor – yes

Anderson – yes

Underhill – yes

Curry – yes

4 yes, 0 no, Motion Carried.

Moved by Anderson to appropriate \$250 to help pay for consultant on Pier St. Beach, Supported by Curry. This would be half of consulting fee to look at Pier St. in partnership with Friends of Pier St. Beach.

All in favor: 3, All Opposed: 1, Motion Carried.

2022/23 Calendar – Rack card events calendar in progress, Submit dates to Jill.

Mparks Conference attendance, revisiting from last meeting – Curry said there are 10 sessions Sunday-Tuesday and she would like to attend. The park board is paying Alex \$90 for transportation and \$135 for his drive time, so \$225 to get him there and back. She wants to ride with Alex. Curry saved the board \$75 with registration fees. Curry's registration would be \$300, she is also requesting \$50 for food and 1 night paid at the hotel. Wants to revisit vote from last meeting.

Moved by Curry that park board allocates \$500 for Curry to accompany Alex and attend 10 sessions on March 6-8, Supported by Anderson.

Underhill said nothing has changed for her from last vote, S. Taylor said her vote wouldn't change, Anderson commented that we already voted on this at last meeting.

Roll Call Vote:

Underhill – no

Curry – yes

Anderson – no

S. Taylor – no

1 Yes, 3 No, Motion Failed.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

Requesting Improvements – All discussion goes toward steward and then steward comes to Alex.

Flag Display – Harbert Beach – tattered so Alex removed it, 24 hr. flag should have light on it, Cherry has street light but Harbert doesn't. Curry will look into getting a solar light, discussion postponed.

Supplemental Appropriations – budget needs to be reduced by \$23,000.

Moved by Anderson to pay Altamanu \$2,000 for consultation of HCP this fiscal year (this was budgeted for in FY 2022), \$5,000 in advance for parking lot grading of CTPP and HCP to be completed after frost date, \$5,500 for second prairie burn to be completed in April 2022, \$1,600 for ice rink (new liner and \$800 misc. items such as snow rake and snow blower), Supported by Underhill.

Roll Call Vote:

Curry – yes

Underhill – yes

Anderson – yes

S. Taylor – yes

Dog Park Platform – Big C composite – 2 quotes: 10x12 \$2,485.29, 10x16 \$3,199.64, Revisions on Feb. 22.

Moved by Anderson to appropriate \$2,000 from this fiscal year, in addition to \$1,500 for dog park platform, Supported by Curry.

Roll Call Vote:

S. Taylor – yes

Anderson – yes

Underhill – yes

Curry – yes

4 yes, 0 no, Motion Carried

Moved by Curry to appropriate up to \$600 for improvements at Harbert Beach, including removing destructive grapevines and installing solar lights to light up new flag, Supported by Underhill.

All in favor: 4, All Opposed: 0, Motion Carried.

Moved by Anderson to take \$12,500 out of next year's budget to spend this year, Supported by Curry.  
All in Favor: 4, All Opposed: 0, Motion Carried.

Park Manager Salary – 3 options are at the forefront

Anderson prefers hiring Alex as salaried employee at about \$36,000, without benefits.

Underhill – not there yet on 32 hrs. per week, lets give it time and track hours. It's been a learning process so we are still figuring out needs, suggested 3% raise which matches rest of township raises. Would like to revisit at end of season, and vote again no later than November.

Curry – wants to see improvements of park manager

S. Taylor – would like to see full time eventually but would like to see numbers to justify need, so we have something to stand behind. Would like to offer competitive salary so we are able to keep him. Would also like to revisit with full board so everyone can have a say.

Moved by Underhill to give Alex a 3% raise, at \$16.25 an hour, with a maximum of 25 hours per week, with an additional \$2,000 for time above 25 hour week, Supported by Curry.

Roll Call Vote:

Underhill – yes

Anderson – no

S. Taylor – yes

Curry – yes

3 yes, 1 no, Motion Carried.

Other budgeted items no longer need to be cut, we are within budget.

Updated job description for Park Board Assistant – Underhill will email and board may give comments.

New job description to be voted on at next meeting.

#### **QUESTION AND ANSWER:**

Alex Schrader – Questioned being paid for attendance at MParks. He received no negative feedback on evaluation so is confused about comments regarding wanting to see improvements. He has received no set hours and very little guidance, documentation in shared files is unorganized, he has received no real training and has been self-taught, after tonight's vote he will now need 2<sup>nd</sup> job so he cannot give full attention to park board anymore.

Marius Stropus – Inquired about any more information regarding Isobel.

George Augustyniak – Inquired about access to estimate, Anderson will provide.

Leah – has park board accepted donation of land? No.

#### **ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Next meeting is March 28, 2022

**ADJOURN:** The meeting was adjourned at 9:14PM with no objections.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Shelly Taylor